

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 05667 282212Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /080 W
-----009376 282358Z /75

P R 281315Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9852
INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 5667

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, LE
SUBJECT: BOUTROS ON REVIVAL OF LEBANESE ARMY

REF: (A) BEIRUT A-67, (B) BEIRUT 5605

DURING MY FAREWELL CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER BOUTROS, ON SEPT. 27, HE SPENT MOST OF THE TIME REVIEWING FOR ME AND DCM HIS PROBLEMS AS DEFENSE MINISTER WITH THE REVIVAL OF THE ARMY AND THE NEW DEFENSE BILL. HE SAID HE HAD HAD TO SCHEDULE A SPECIAL MEETING FOR SEPT. 27 BECAUSE IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT THE DEFENSE BILL HAD NOT BEEN PASSED, AN EFFORT WAS BEING MOUNTED TO CUT THE ARMY APPROPRIATION, AND HE HAD TO HEAD THIS OFF AT THIS CRUCIAL TIME. HE IS ALSO HAVING TO CONTINUE TO EXPLAIN THAT IF MARONITE POWER OVER THE ARMY IS GOING TO BE SERIOUSLY REDUCED BY TRANSFERRING OPERATIONAL CONTROL OVER THE ARMY TO A MULTI-CONFESSIONAL MILITARY COMMITTEE, THE CHANGE MUST BE PART OF A PACKAGE DEAL IN WHICH THE MARONITES ARE GIVEN SOME QUID PRO QUO FOR THE LOSS OF THEIR CHERISHED MONOPLY CONTROL OF HQ. DCM NOTED THAT THE MILITARY SURVEY TEAM REPORT WE HAVE DELIVERED TO HIM AND GENERAL KHOURY DEALS ESSENTIALLY

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WITH TECHNICAL MILITARY MATTERS RATHER THAN LEBANON'S UNIQUE CONFESSIONAL PROBLEMS; HOWEVER, WE STAND READY TO SEEK QUICK ANSWERS FROM USG ON QUESTIONS RAISED WITH US EITHER BY GENERAL KHOURY OR BY BOUTROS AS DEFENSE MINISTER.
PARKER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY BUILDUP, ARMED FORCES, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, LEGISLATIVE BILLS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 sep 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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